VIGIL

Fr Paul

# **Reading Roster**

8.00AM

Fr Shinto

Randall Noney

**Kim Crawford** 

Jim Gresser

Cecilia Hunt

#### 7th/8th January 2023

Date: Mass Time: Priest: Acolyte: Commentator: First Reading: Second Reading: Music: Date: Mass Time: Priest: Acolyte: Commentator: First Reading: Second Reading:

Music:

8.00AM Fr Paul Ian Miles **Richard Merchant** Margaret Smith Cecilia Hunt Wilhelmina de Raadt **Kim Crawford** Jim Gresser Lynette Boyd **Chris Wilson** 

#### 14th/15th January 2023

VIGIL Fr Shinto Ian Miles Felix Kobus Margaret Hickey Margaret Smith

9.30AM Fr Paul John Belfanti Steve Bishop **Phillip Saville** Anne Ellis E Street Band

> 9.30AM Fr Shinto Ed Junis Phillip Saville Domnhall MacCormac Ingrid Merchant **Chris Wilson**

8th January 2023

# **POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI**

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB says Pope Benedict XVI will long be remembered fondly in Australia as the Pontiff who led young people from around the globe in prayer at World Youth Day in Sydney in 2008.

Pope Benedict, born Joseph Ratzinger, led the Church from April 2005 until February 2013, becoming the first Pope in centuries to resign. He had earlier served as head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, one of the Vatican's most influential departments, for more than two decades.

Pope Benedict died in Rome, where he had lived since his papal retirement, on Saturday evening, Australian time.

"From his time as an expert adviser – or peritus – at the Second Vatican Council onwards, there was no question that Joseph Ratzinger was a major figure within the Church around the world," said Archbishop Costelloe, president of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

"His papacy will be remembered as one of rich teaching, including his encyclicals on love, hope and truth, as well as his book series Jesus of Nazareth, and for important reforms in areas like liturgy and in the handling of child sexual abuse."

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, the bishop who oversaw World Youth Day in 2008, said Pope Benedict had been a key influence and someone with whom he became close. "I had the great privilege of spending some private moments with Pope Benedict, away from the spotlight," Archbishop Fisher said.

"They were moments I will forever cherish. He had a great intellect, which he shared through his work as a professor, a Church leader and ultimately as Pope. "He did not seek nor enjoy the spotlight, but he produced some magnificent works that have shaped and will continue to shape Catholic thought and Catholic life."

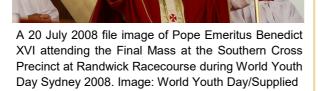
Archbishop Fisher said he was very grateful to spend some time with Pope Benedict during his visits to Rome.

"Reminiscing about his time in Australia and learning from this gentle father figure was a real joy," he said.

With thanks to the ACBC.

https://catholicoutlook.org/church-in-australia-mourns-death-of-pope-benedict-xvi/

Each of us is a result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed Each of us is loved Each of us is necessary. Pope Benedict XVI



### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD : Year A

## St Thomas Aquínas Parísh Bulletín

168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood, NSW, 2777 PO Box 4410, Winmalee, NSW 2777 Phone: 02 4754 1052 email: springwood@parracatholic.org www.stachurchspringwood.org.au St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood Fr Paul Slyney - 4754 1052 *Emergency ONLY*: 0418 461 316 Fr Shinto Francis - 4754 1052 Emergency ONLY: 0415 077 969 email - springwoodppc@gmail.com Tuesday to Friday 8.30 am - 3.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass 5.00 pm, Sunday 8.00 am and 9.30 am Tuesday - Saturday 9.30 am

Healing Mass: **Rosary & Devotions:** Adoration, Rosary:

Baptisms: **Reconciliation:** Weddings: Funerals:

Parish Email:

Parish Priest:

Parish Website:

**Assistant Priest:** 

Parish Office Hours:

Weekend Masses:

Weekday Mass:

Parish Facebook Page:

Parish Pastoral Council:

1st Friday of the month, 9.30am Tuesday-Saturday 9.00am 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month, 7.30 - 8.30 pm

2nd and 4th Sundays of every month - 10.30am and by appointment Please Contact the Parish Office By appointment Please Contact the Parish Office

### THE GOSPEL

#### *Matthew 2:1-12*

Look! Look up, O Jerusalem! The world is coming, running to walk in your light.

We are the sparkling and dull, the border agents and the undocumented. the kings and the drifters.

Lord, please shine your light upon us all. Let your star chase away our darkness and fill us with your radiant love. Make us into epiphanies overflowing with wonderful care for each other.

Anne Osdieck

#### Today's Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

VIGIL Entrance Antiphon: Arise, Jerusalem, and look to the East and see your children gathered from the rising to the setting of the sun.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 - R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

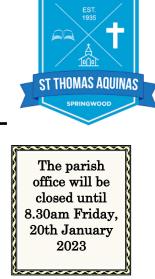
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia! VIGIL Communion Antiphon: The brightness of God illuminated the holy city of Jerusalem, and the nations will walk by its light.

MASS DURING THE DAY Entrance Antiphon: Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and domination.

**MASS DURING THE DAY Communion Antiphon:** We have seen his star in the East, the have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

We acknowledge the Darug and Gundungarra people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to elders both past and present.

### 8th January 2023



### THE FIRST READING Isaiah 60:1-6

*Rise up in splendour, Jerusalem!* Your light has come, the glory of the lord shines upon you.

Morning has come.

Its gentle light spills over all. Caravans come, nations stretch to see.

Hearts open up their sleepy eyes to the radiance that you have poured out on us.

> Help us too to awaken.

#### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD : Year A

#### 8th January 2023

#### Recently Deceased: Patricia Schirato, Pope Benedict XVI

Sick: Barry Morris, Baby Leonardo Diaz, Susie Ziino, James Wallace, Mischa Damaguc and family, Margaret Day, Adam McCully, Christopher Coombs, Kate Moore, Luca Hurley and all Private Intentions.

Due to the strict privacy laws, names of the deceased and sick can only be included in the Bulletin with the express permission of the immediate family. Thank you.



#### PRAYERS AND CONDOLENCES TO THE GLENMORE PARK COMMUNITY:

Please join our Parish community in praying for Nicholas Tadros who is in a serious and critical condition in hospital after an horrific helicopter accident in Queensland.

We pray for Vanessa Tadros. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Simon Tadros, their extended family, St Padre Pio Parish, Bethany Primary School and the Glenmore Park community.

"But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds, declares the Lord". Jeremiah 30:17 (Holy Land Praver)

#### **EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ~Matthew 2:10-11

All of God's creation gives Him glory and praises Him by its very existence. Psalm 143 states, "Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all shining stars. Praise him, highest heavens, you waters above the heavens. Let them all praise the LORD's name; for he commanded and they were created ... "Though creation gives praise to God simply by existing and thus, revealing its Creator, today's solemnity commemorates the one moment in time when God used a star to manifest His eternal glory.

At the time of Jesus' birth, it was commonly believed that a new star would appear whenever a new ruler was born. The Father in Heaven used this belief to honour His Son Who was born as the new King. The three Magi from the East were astrologers. When they saw this "new star," they chose to follow it to discover the new King. Creation itself, in the form of a star, pointed the way, thus giving glory to the newborn King, manifesting Him to the whole world as symbolised by the Magi.

The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation." Therefore, as we honour this moment in time when the Christ Child was made manifest to the world, we need to look into our own hearts. There, we discover Christ's ongoing manifestation to us so that we can worship Him Who has also chosen to be born within our hearts. We must diligently seek out that manifestation of God within us and respond to it in the same ways that the Magi responded.

As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany, try to see it as a historical event in which you are invited to share. God wants to manifest Himself to you today. When this happens, you must respond with faith and worship, giving God the greatest glory by giving Him your very life and offering Him your spiritual gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

#### 2023 COMBINED First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Program - 6 Week preparation

We invite you and your child to be part of our 2023 First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Program. This program will be conducted as one combined preparation in 2023 instead of two separate programs as both themes are connected. These sacraments will be in group sessions in a home or parish-based environment. Age: Children in Year 3 or older in 2023, who have not yet received Reconciliation are invited to participate.

Meetings: Please come along to both Parent Meetings on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> February (same week) 7pm at St Thomas Aquinas Church. (Not necessary for candidates to attend)

What do I bring along to the first meeting? Please bring with you a completed copy of the enrolment form (available to download via www.stachurchspringwood.org.au, hard copies at the back of the church or at the parish office) and also a copy of your child's baptism certificate.

The cost: \$40.00 per family (includes both sacraments). This covers all books required to complete both sacraments, certificates, and medal (medal - Holy Communion only). Payable via eftpos on the first parent evening. Presentation of Candidates and Families at Mass: 18th February 5.00pm or 19th February 8.00am or 9.30am. First Reconciliation will take place on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm and Holy Communion on Friday, 24th

March at 7.00pm (Please note new date)

Please refer to our website for further information : www.stachurchspringwood.org.au

# **SAFEGUARDING FOR VOLUNTEERS:** An Invitation to Face-to-Face Training

St Thomas Aguinas will be presenting the Mandatory Safeguarding Training onsite for our parish community, on Saturday 11th February 2023.

The schedule for the day will be:

10.00am -	Module 1: Understanding Safeguard
11.00am -	Morning Tea
11.30am -	Module 2: Legal Compliance: Risk of
1:00pm -	Lunch
1.30pm -	Module 3: Working with Adults at Ris
3.00pm -	Finish

Volunteers across the Diocese are asked to participate in this training to ensure our parishes are inclusive and safe for children and adults at risk.

Our participation is an expression of our personal commitment to living the values of the Gospel in this modern world. It is also an opportunity to show how we can combine our gifts and talents to ensure our parish is a faith-filled and welcoming community for all people.

## Please contact the Parish Office to register for the Face-to-Face Training session: email: springwood@parracatholic.org

I am looking forward to working with you all in ensuring that, together, we are building a safe parish for all our faith community.

#### Maria Kervin

Community Engagement and Education Officer Office of Safeguarding, Diocese of Parramatta

# WHY should I sign up for Mandatory Safeguarding Training?

- clusive for all.
- ዮ We have a special responsibility to care for children and adults at risk.
- Religious organisations are now required by law to ensure their volunteers who are involved in miniswith Mandatory Safeguarding Training.
- This is a real opportunity to join with Bishop Vincent and work together at a Parish level to demonstrate that the Parish of St Thomas Aguinas has a zero tolerance of abuse in any form.

# WHO should register for Mandatory Safeguarding Training?

- ≈ Liturgy Helpers, Readers etc)
- Do you have a Working With Children Check?
- Are you involved in a ministry that operates through liturgies and parish events?
- nerable adults?
- Are you curious and would like to know more about keeping parishes safe?

ding & the Child Safe Standards

of Significant Harm & Reportable Conduct

isk & Understanding Boundaries



All people involved in parish life have a collective responsibility to ensure our parish life is safe and in-

tries that may directly or indirectly come in contact with children and/or adults at risk are supported

Are you involved in a ministry that works directly with children? (Acolytes, SRE Teachers, Children's

Are you involved in a ministry that may directly or indirectly come into contact with children and/or vul-